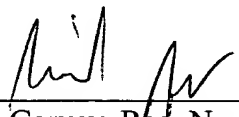


REMARKS

If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge the same
to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. TSW 32794US1

Respectfully submitted,

PEARNE & GORDON

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June 18, 2001

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--To make sure that the signal processing unit 1 and the read-only memory 11 also correspond to each other in the sense that the memory 11 in fact does contain identification features of peripherals which also match the particular signal processing unit 1, the first step in identification may be in comparing and identification entry stored in an identification memory S_1 of the signal processing unit 1[- 7] through the cycle unit 7 and the comparator 9 with the contents deposited at the read-only memory 11 in its own identification memory S_{11} , and identifying this memory or contents.--

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1 3. (amended) Hearing aid as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2,
- 2 characterized in that at least one bus and [peripherals] interfaces implement the
- 3 connection between peripherals and the central signal processing unit.

1 6. (amended) Hearing aid as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the audio
2 signal components in the form of peripherals are connected through a first bus and
3 first interfaces to the signal processing unit and control components in the form of
4 peripherals are connected through a second bus and second interfaces to the signal
5 processing unit, the first [peripherals] interfaces preferably being at least three-wire
6 interfaces, the second interfaces preferably being at least two-wire interfaces, the
7 former preferably being based on I²S interfaces and the latter preferably being based
8 on I²C interfaces.